ANU
Serving Our Global Community
ESL students study with us for a variety of reasons: upon completion of the ESL program, some will pursue degrees at ANU or another American institution; others are looking to improve their communications skills in English or to improve their TOEFL® or IELTS® test scores. Regardless, the faculty and staff at American National University will do their utmost to help you realize your goals.

Our International Student Services staff will provide you with assistance in finding affordable and safe housing solutions and will introduce you to other ESL program students easing your transition to living in a new country.

Students heading to the United States for study may be apprehensive about a new country with unfamiliar customs, but you can rest assured that the English Language Institute is well-equipped to assist you with your transition. Our instructors and staff members are trained to direct you to relevant support, and provide advice and assistance.

We’re proud to have a “small” advantage over other, larger schools because our classes aren’t over-crowded! Instead, you’ll receive personalized attention from our faculty, staff, and administrators. And while all this makes it easier to learn at a rigorous pace, there is help available if you find that you’re falling behind or miss a class. With tutoring available at no additional cost, we can match you with a tutor any time you think you may need a little extra help.

You Focus on Learning, We Focus on the Details.

Referrals to affordable and safe housing
Airport transfers upon arrival
Counseling to help you adjust to living in a new country
Academic support and tutoring

Gereltuya “Tuya” Gonchig (Mongolia, ESL student) initially enrolled in the English as a Second Language (ESL) program, but after completing it last fall, she felt confident in her English skills and decided to continue on her educational journey at ANU by enrolling in the MBA program.
The ANU MBA Program: Educating the International Business Leaders of Tomorrow

How do you choose an MBA program? For many international students, the choice is clear when they discover the specializations, family-like atmosphere, and real-life, hands-on experience that’s available to them in the Master of Business Administration program at American National University (ANU).

From the beginning, the MBA program at ANU has been distinct in its customization to each MBA student’s goals of career advancement and leadership. With the recent addition of four MBA specializations in international business, accounting management, organizational management, and healthcare management, students now have even more options available when choosing the educational path that’s right for them. A separate MBA-IT program was also recently launched to prepare students for upper level management in the growing field of information technology.

“I’m excited that we’re going to be able to offer greater value to our MBA students in terms of students being able to focus on a narrow niche of their expertise for their specialization,” said MBA program chair Dr. Annette Chamberlin.

Annette and the MBA program’s faculty also work closely with students to ensure that their studies focus on areas that will be the most beneficial to their career. “Any conversation that I have with a potential MBA candidate always starts with: ‘What do you want the degree to do for you?’” shared Annette. “Once we establish that criteria—that’s how we customize projects and papers—so that we know that it will add just the right opportunities that the student is looking for.”

Many of the assignments carried out within the ANU MBA program are ‘real-life’ projects performed in collaboration with local businesses. Fang Zhang, a graduate who is now working for PureSmile in Shanghai, China, feels that these projects were very beneficial, helping her connect the dots between theory and practical application of business concepts.

“When you can apply subjects discussed during the lectures directly into practice, it is much easier to really understand the theory,” Fang explained. “Another positive thing is that all course participants are working on the same case; therefore, group discussions, which also have a positive effect on the understanding of the course contents, are possible.”

These small group discussion and the close relationships that she built with her instructors and fellow students also enriched graduate Rupali Patel’s learning experience. “You find so many age groups, and we have the ESL program [at ANU], so we have a lot of people that are from out of the country,” Rupali recalled. “We would share our own experiences related to the concepts we were learning in class and get feedback from our classmates.”

Rupali feels that the family-like atmosphere and small class size that she found at ANU also made earning her MBA less intimidating than it would have been at some larger universities. “The MBA program at ANU is so much fun—it didn’t feel like work,” Rupali shared. “Don’t look back—keep going. When you have an MBA, no one can take it from you.”

American National University’s Unique Community-Based MBA’s Are Now Even More Distinctive With Optional Specializations

MBA
The ANU Program is distinct in its customization to each student’s goals through courses and projects that build a network with peers, faculty, and business leaders. Specializations in certain fields give added advantage and insight for students working as leaders in these fields.

Healthcare Management
Focuses on knowledge and regulatory issues particular to healthcare

Accounting Management
Provides students with practical accounting and management skills

International Business
Provides a solid foundation in finance and management for multi-national organizations

Organizational Management
Students attain knowledge specific to the design and measurement of organizational effectiveness

MBA-IT
The MBA-IT program prepares students for leadership and management of technology businesses/operations
International Student Comes to ANU for Advanced Degrees

Hemang Desai, a student from India, came to the U.S. in October to study in the MBA-IT program at the Roanoke Valley Campus. Hemang has already earned both a bachelor’s and master’s degree in IT computer applications.

In India, he worked as a software developer where he spoke English while communicating with clients via phone or Skype. “I am 90 percent sure that I will go back to India, but would not be opposed to starting a business here,” said Hemang. He still has family in India who is very supportive of his decision to come to ANU to complete his education.

Hemang’s favorite aspect of being a student at ANU is the helpful instructors. “I like their study structure and how they push me to do my very best,” he stated.

He is enjoying living in the U.S. where “the way of life here is different in a good way.” “Everyone [works] hard during the week, but enjoys themselves on the weekends,” he explained. Conversely, the culture in India is “getting together every day and having fun after going to school or working.”

Hemang has already recommended the MBA-IT program to most of his friends, and he hopes the ones with career interests similar to his will join him at ANU.

From Extern to Employee

The American National University Columbus Campus recently recognized Dr. Donald Woodard’s Family and Addiction Practice as a Distinguished Community Employer.

The practice recently accepted medical assisting student Hurl-Lu Waugh as an extern. Externships are an important component of the medical assisting program at ANU, giving students an opportunity to gain experience in a medical office, while giving the medical practice an opportunity to evaluate a student as a potential employee.

“Hurl-Lu was very prepared as an extern which led to my hiring decision.”

Hurl-Lu worked hard and proved himself to Dr. Woodard and his staff, and he was hired based on the quality of his work during his externship. “Hurl-Lu was very prepared as an extern which led to my hiring decision,” stated Dr. Woodard.

Hurl-Lu loves working with his patients in Dr. Woodard’s practice, and he feels that his training at ANU allowed him to master the skills that he needed to be successful in his medical assisting career. “The instructors and staff [at ANU] were always helpful,” he said. “[I was] very pleased with my education and training at ANU.”
Shaquile “ShaQ” Majawah was working as a CCTV installation technician in his home country of Malawi when he decided it was time to further his career opportunities. The first step was to pursue higher education, and he set his sights on attending a university in the United States. “A U.S. education has more weight, more value,” he explained.

He found American National University’s Roanoke Valley Campus through a Google search, and secured the necessary paperwork to come over and begin his studies in the network support associate’s degree program last July.

“The instructors will always help you.”

“I’ve been interested in computers since I was young, but they were confusing. I wanted to understand them better, and now that I’m studying them it’s easy,” ShaQ explained.

His career goal is to be a security administrator, securing data through computer networking. Once he obtains his network support associate’s degree, he plans to utilize the convenience of ANU’s progressive educational pathways by immediately rolling right into the campus’s network administration bachelor’s degree program.

The IT programs at ANU have recently been streamlined to make sure they are in line with the current job market. “There’s been a big push to gear them more toward certifications, and to make students more marketable to employers,” explained Roanoke Valley Campus IT department chair John Warf. Students enrolled in the network programs now receive vouchers to take the related certification exams as part of their course materials, and with a Pearson VUE testing center on site, students can complete their certification exams in the convenience of the campus itself.

ShaQ found the certification aspect of ANU’s network programs to be a huge draw. He recently earned his Network Pro and CompTIA A+ certifications, with plans to earn several more.

“Shaquile Majawah came from Malawi to the U.S. to study network administration at the Roanoke Valley Campus of ANU.

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MBA Students Tour Coca-Cola Bottling Plant

“It was great to see what we learned [in class] actually being used!”

Students from the ANU MBA Operations Management class recently participated in a field trip to the Roanoke Coca-Cola Bottling plant. During the trip, they were given a presentation on the production processes, and then a tasting session of all the products bottled at the plant, including Coke, Diet Coke, Fanta, and Sprite.

The visit culminated in an hour long tour of the plant, where the students were able to observe operations concepts like quality controls, scheduling, layout strategies, and inventory management at work.

“It was great to see what we learned [in class] actually being used!” said MBA student Nilay Ghandi. The students were also impressed by the speed of the operations, especially the fact that the plant produces 900 bottles per minute.

To learn more from our international community, watch the complete video here: AN.edu/international
Another Life Changed

The city of Columbus is known to have a high percentage of immigrant families, and as you walk the halls of the ANU Columbus Campus you see a clear representation of the many different nationalities that reside in the community. For some, attending college can be challenging, but ANU has helped many international students continue their education and realize their dreams.

Sujata Adhikari, an immigrant from Nepal, is a prime example of such a student. She moved to the U.S. with her family while still in high school. “After finishing high school, I wasn’t sure if I wanted to go to college, because I didn’t know if I could handle it,” she recalled. “I was living at home with my parents and I wasn’t working, but I knew I needed to make a change.”

After researching and visiting a number of schools, Sujata heard about ANU from a friend. She came to the Columbus Campus for a visit and got excited about the prospect of attending ANU. “I really liked the small class sizes, and it was nice to see that I wasn’t the only one from a different country,” she explained. Also, I was relieved to find out there was free tutoring which I use whenever I need it.”

Sujata is currently in her third term at ANU and she is majoring in business administration-management. She is proud to have earned a spot on the Dean’s List the last two terms, while taking a full class load of 16 credit hours per term. In the next five years, she hopes to earn her bachelor’s degree and find a job in human resources. “I want to be able to take care of my parents and possibly start a family,” she shared.

Sujata loves her instructors and the friendly staff at the Columbus Campus. She feels that she made a great decision by enrolling at ANU, and she encourages others to do the same. “I guess the best advice I can give someone would be not to be afraid to make the first step and enroll, and also to ask for help if you need it,” she said.

Education at ANU Equals Success for Accounting Graduate

Vanessa Enriquez Ruiz has always had a head for numbers, which helped her build a successful career in her native country of Cuba, working for eighteen years in accounting and later as an attorney. But when she came to America in search of freedom and opportunity, she was disheartened to discover that her experience and college education wasn’t recognized by employers in the U.S.

“I came to this country looking for opportunities, and ANU made that possible.”

Unable to find work in the field that she loved, Vanessa was forced to take a job as a line cook at a local restaurant chain to help support her family. With job dissatisfaction fueling her resolve, she became determined to get the education that she needed to reestablish her accounting career. At the suggestion of a friend, she contacted admissions representative Ely Kraft at the American National University Louisville Campus.

“When I started to go to college I felt scared…but it was wonderful,” Vanessa recalled, adding that her admissions representative worked closely with her from enrollment through graduation.

Vanessa completed her accounting office assistant program with high honors just a year after enrolling. With the credentials that she needed to back up her experience, she was hired as an accounting assistant at Quick Accounting, where she confidently provides payroll, tax, and bookkeeping assistance to her clients--from doctors to shop owners--many of whom are Hispanic, as well. “When I finished college, I started [working] here very fast. I’m very happy,” Vanessa said with a smile. “I came to this country looking for opportunities, and ANU made that possible.”
Native of Cuba Returns to Medical Field After Graduating From ANU

After completing an English as a Second Language course, Misleidy David visited the Louisville Campus two times before she summoned up the courage to enroll in the medical assisting program at ANU. She knew that continuing her education was her only option if she wanted to return to the medical field where she knew she belonged. “I was a nurse in Cuba for ten years, but then when I came here [to the United States] I was forced to work in the factories,” she explained. “I just decided to start again and start over.”

“National changed my life because I’m doing what I like to do.”

Misleidy’s insecurities about returning to school were quickly alleviated as she worked with her bilingual admissions representative, Ely Kraft, who assisted and supported her from enrollment through graduation. She also got all of the personal attention that she needed from her instructors, as she refreshed her clinical skills and learned more about the administrative functions of a medical office.

As she neared the end of her program, Misleidy had two more important steps to complete to help ensure her career got off to a great start—completing an externship, where she would gain on-the-job experience working in a medical practice, and passing the certification test to become certified as a registered medical assistant (RMA), which she prepared for in her Medical Assisting Exam Success class and through study groups with her classmates.

Misleidy was placed in an externship at JW Medical where her skills were put to the test and her performance was closely evaluated by the staff as they considered her for future job openings. After passing the certification test to become an RMA and earning her degree, she was hired by the practice, which was a recent recipient of the Distinguished Community Employer Award due to its support of the ANU medical assisting program and its graduates.

Nurse practitioner J. W. Harvey, who operates JW Medical, said that Misleidy is one of several hard-working medical assistants that he’s recruited from ANU, and he feels that the practice is attracting more Hispanic patients thanks to her bilingual skills. “She’s really grown and become part of our practice. She does a very good job,” he said.

Misleidy is happy to be out of the factory and back working in the medical field caring for her patients each day. “National changed my life because I’m doing what I like to do,” she stated. “I love the people; I love to take care of them; I love everything about my job. I’m [going to be] doing this all my life.”

Misleidy was hired by JW Medical after completing her externship in the practice and becoming certified as a Registered Medical Assistant.
Difference Maker Ely Kraft is an admissions representative at the ANU Louisville Campus. A native of Venezuela, she earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration-management from Santa Maria University, and then traveled to London, England where she earned a certificate in English grammar from Cambridge University. During her eleven years at ANU, Ely has provided guidance and encouragement to thousands of students from enrollment to graduation and beyond.

“I have the best job in the world, being part of my students’ educational journey. Many of our students are single parents, and I am inspired by their motivation and their drive to succeed as they manage their families while going to school.”

“Many of our Hispanic students left their homes in other countries and were willing to sacrifice everything just to be free. I really want to make a difference in their lives.”

“My greatest reward is when they start their career with a great job and they call to share it with me.”

“As students at ANU, I can see them become happier, more confident, more goal-oriented, and financially independent. My greatest reward is when they start their career with a great job and they call to share it with me.”

Yamisleydis Ferrer, a native of Cuba, has worked closely with Ely as a student in the ANU medical assisting program. “There are not enough words to describe the passion and dedication that Ely gives to her job,” Yamisleydis said. “I personally feel blessed that I had the opportunity to meet her. Ely gave me hope and the desire to better myself and be successful. I am very thankful.”

Surgical technology graduate Eduardo Del Toro also feels that Ely’s support was integral to his success at ANU. “She helped me out from the beginning to the end,” he explained.
The Roanoke Valley
Star City of the South

The Roanoke Valley is situated between the Blue Ridge and Allegheny Mountains and is the largest metropolitan area in western Virginia with a population of more than 300,000 and a regional airport with more than 40 daily flights. The region has natural beauty and outdoor amenities that have always made it an attractive place to live, work, and play.

The Roanoke Valley is a very safe place to live and has a temperate climate. The summers are warm and the winters are mild with occasional snow. The area has the highest number of restaurants per capita ratio than any other city in Virginia.

There are hundreds of unique festivals, celebrations, performances, and events throughout the year, along with an abundance of historical museums and attractions.

Outdoor opportunities include hiking, biking, and visiting nearby Smith Mountain Lake, the largest lake in Virginia.

FACTS

- Roanoke is also called the “Star City of the South” because of the Mill Mountain Star that overlooks the city 1,045 feet above the City. It is the world’s largest freestanding illuminated manmade star and is visible for 60 miles in the air.

- Roanoke came from the Native American word, “Raw-re-nock,” a name for shell beads worn by the Native American and used as trade goods.

- Smith Mountain Lake is western Virginia’s biggest playground and Virginia’s largest lake. Smith Mountain Lake encompasses over 40 miles, holds 20,000 acres of water, and is surrounded by 500 miles of shoreline.
Get Your ANU Gear!

Want to show your ANU pride? Check out the official website for American National University gear! Visit this site to shop for all ANU gear, including t-shirts, hats, fleece jackets, button-down shirts, accessories, and much more.

//americannational.qbstores.com/

Show your school pride on campus and in your community.

*Allow 2-3 weeks for shipping*

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